



SOCIAL STUDIES

FOR FAMILIES

YOU ARE your child's first teacher. Learn how to support the goals of Oklahoma's academic standards and why they are important for your child. Please be in regular communication with your child's teachers about learning in the classroom and how to support that learning at home. When schools and families work together as partners, it helps your child achieve academic excellence!

KINDERGARTEN

What to expect:

Kindergarten is when children begin to grow academically, socially and emotionally in a structured learning environment. Families play an important role in that growth as they model positive learning behaviors and become involved in school activities.

Through age-appropriate activities focused on citizenship, economics, geography and history, kindergartners begin to understand the idea of fairness and learn how to speak up for themselves and others.

This information is a snapshot of learning in kindergarten social studies. For a complete set of social studies academic standards, click [here](https://sde.ok.gov/oklahoma-academic-standards) or visit sde.ok.gov/oklahoma-academic-standards.

By the end of the school year, your child will:

- Recognize why rules and responsibilities are important.
- Identify the United States flag, the bald eagle, the Statue of Liberty and the Liberty Bell as symbols of our country.
- Learn the Pledge of Allegiance.
- Describe the basic needs of food, clothing and shelter that are common to all people.
- Locate the United States on a world map and a globe.
- Recognize holidays that honor people and events of the past.

What to do at home:

- Point out recognizable symbols, such as the swoosh for Nike or Rumble for the Oklahoma City Thunder. Compare them to the way we see the Statue of Liberty and associate it the United States.
- Discuss the roles and responsibilities that go along with being a member of a family.
- Point to Oklahoma on a map of the United States.
- Discuss ways people earn money.



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Fostering Curiosity

Children are naturally curious and motivated to learn about things that interest them. Since curiosity contributes to success in the classroom, it is important to encourage it at home. Play is a wonderful way to nurture curiosity in young children, so be sure to allow plenty of playtime. Encourage your child to ask questions, discover answers and explore the world.

Cultivate your child's curiosity with guiding questions like these:

- What do you wonder about?
- What patterns do you see when you look outside?
- What book do you want to read today?

Your child will have plenty of questions. It's okay if you don't have the answer every time. The best response is always, "Let's find out together."

Fostering Communication

Increase vocabulary, thinking skills and curiosity by using new words and having conversations that include questions that make your child think. Communicating with others gives children a chance to see and understand that there can be more than one idea on a given subject. Accepting these different ideas helps children learn how to get along with others. This acceptance fosters positive relationships with peers and strong self-image.

Cultivate your child's communication skills with questions like these:

- What is your favorite food and why?
- What rule have you followed today?
- What do community helpers do for people?
- How did you help someone today?

Fostering Comprehension

Kindergartners are developing beginning reading skills and an enjoyment of reading. Make time to explore books, magazines and other types of print with them and encourage conversations as you read together. Use the following questions to help your child better understand what he or she is reading.

BEFORE READING

- What do you think this book is about?
- What does this book remind you of?

DURING READING

- What do you think will happen next?
- Where and when does the story take place?

AFTER READING

- What happened in the beginning, middle and end?
- What was your favorite part of the book and why?

Join the conversation!

#oklaed